

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[WY-920-05-1320-01; WYW128322]

Environmental Statements; Availability, etc.; Antelope Coal Co., WY; Coal Lease Application**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Antelope Coal Lease Application (WYW128322) and Notice of Public Hearing.**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the draft EA for a coal lease application filed by Antelope Coal Company. The EA was prepared to assist the BLM in making a decision on the proposed lease. In addition, notice is also given that a public hearing will be held on April 26, 1995, to solicit public comment on the EA, the proposed sale, and the Fair Market Value (FMV) and Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) of the proposed lease tract.**DATES:** The public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m., MDT, on Wednesday, April 26, 1995, at the Holiday Inn, 1450 Riverbend Drive, Douglas, Wyoming. There will be an informal question and answer session starting at 6 p.m. MDT, before the formal hearing proceedings begin to answer questions regarding the Antelope coal lease application, or the leasing process. The EA is scheduled for release to the public in early April, 1995. The public comment period will end on Tuesday, May 30, 1995.**ADDRESSES:** Comments, concerns, and requests for copies of the EA should be addressed to Casper District Office, BLM, Attn: Nancy Doelger, 1701 East "E" Street, Casper, Wyoming 82601.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Doelger or Mike Karbs, 307-261-7600, FAX 307-234-1525, or contact the address listed above.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Antelope Coal Company filed a coal lease application on December 29, 1992, with the BLM pursuant to provisions of 43 CFR 3425.1 as a lease by application (LBA) for the following lands:T. 41 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M. Converse County, Wyoming
Sec. 30: Lots 15-18;T. 41 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M. Converse County, Wyoming
Sec. 25: Lots 5-8, 13, 14;
Sec. 26: Lots 9-11, 14, 15;
Total (applied for) 617.2 acres more or less.

The BLM is also considering two alternate tract configurations, which are

discussed in the draft EA. The first alternate tract configuration would increase the size of the tract by adding the following lands to it:

T. 40 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Section 34: Lot 1;T. 41 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Section 26: Lots 12 and 13;
Section 27: Lots 13 and 16;

Total added to lease: 205.63 acres

Total under this alternative: 822.83 acres

The second alternate tract configuration would reduce the size of the tract by removing the following lands:

T. 41 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 26: Lots 10, 11, 14 and 15.

Total subtracted from lease: 161.77 acres

Total under this alternative: 455.43 acres.

It is estimated that the tract as applied for by Antelope Coal Company contains approximately 57 million tons of recoverable coal. The lease application area is north of and contiguous with the existing Antelope Mine, operated by the Antelope Coal Company. The company applied to lease the proposed Antelope tract as a maintenance tract for the Antelope Mine. Written comments will be accepted from the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register** through May 30, 1995. Comments may be submitted to the address listed above in writing, or expressed verbally at the hearing.**Alan R. Pierson,***State Director.*

[FR Doc. 95-8443 Filed 4-5-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

[ES-020-05-1430-00]

Planning and Environmental Analysis, Newton County, Mississippi**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of intent.**SUMMARY:** At this time the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eastern States, Jackson District, announces that a planning analysis and environmental assessment will be completed for the following described land.**Choctaw Meridian, Newton County, Mississippi**T. 6 N., R. 12 E.,
Sec. 21, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

This planning and environmental analysis is being prepared to determine the suitability of the above tract of land for disposal under authority of the Color-of-Title Act of December 22, 1928 (amended by 67 Stat. 227; 43 U.S.C. 1068, 1068a).

DATES: The Bureau of Land Management is asking the public for comments on issues which relate to the preparation of the planning analysis with respect to the above described land. Anyone wishing to comment has until May 17, 1995 to send remarks to the address given below.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mark H. Davis, Bureau of Land Management, 411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404, Jackson, Mississippi 39206, telephone number: 601-977-5400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This planning and environmental analysis will be prepared in accordance with section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and 43 CFR 1610.8(b).

The planning analysis and environmental assessment will be prepared by an interdisciplinary team of specialists. Records concerning preparation of the document will be available at the Jackson District Office.

Dated: March 28, 1995.

Robert V. Abbey,*District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 95-8480 Filed 4-5-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-M

[MT-020-1610-00]

Notice of Intent to Plan**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana/Dakotas, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice.**SUMMARY:** An environmental document will be prepared for proposed areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) in the South Dakota Resource Area, Dakotas District, North Dakota; and the Powder River and Billings Resource Areas, Miles City District, Montana. The document will amend three resource management plans (RMPs): the Billings RMP (1983), the Powder River RMP (1984) and the South Dakota RMP (1985). It will be based on the existing statutory requirements and will meet the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The document will guide future management decisions for areas designated ACEC and is scheduled for completion by September 1996.**DATES:** Any nominations, issues, concerns or alternatives should be submitted to BLM on or before May 15, 1995.**ADDRESSES:** All submissions should be sent to the following address: BLM, Mary Bloom, Team Leader, Miles City Plaza, Miles City, Montana 59301.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Bloom, Team Leader, (406) 232-7000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An ACEC is an area within the public lands where special management attention is required to protect important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

In 1992, during the public participation phase on BLM's Draft Miles City District Oil and Gas RMP/EIS Amendment, the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society proposed six areas for ACEC designation: Fossil Cycad, Pryor Mountains, Pompeys Pillar, Bridger Fossil-Red Dome, Finger Buttes, and Deadhorse Badlands. When the Record of Decision (1994) for the document was issued, it was decided that these areas and two additional areas presented in the document: Meeteetse Spires and Weatherman Draw, would be analyzed in a separate Plan Amendment.

The planning area for this Plan Amendment consists of BLM-administered lands in proposed ACECs within the Billings, Powder River and South Dakota Resource Areas. The purpose and need, analysis process and request for nominations are included below to solicit your participation in this process.

The proposed action is to establish areas that have special values and require special management attention as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and to protect and enhance these areas to provide opportunities for scientific research and recreation for the public. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires that priority be given to designation and protection of ACECs. The ACEC designation indicates to the public that BLM recognizes the area as having significant values and has established special management measures to protect those values. Designation also serves as a reminder that significant values or resources exist which must be accommodated in future management actions or land use proposals in or near the ACEC.

The public is asked to assist BLM in identification of ACECs. Nominations must meet both the relevance and importance criteria under the Code of Federal Regulations: 43 CFR 1610.7-2(a) to be considered as a potential ACEC.

The following are the nominations already received by BLM and the groups' reasons for the nomination. These areas have not yet been evaluated by BLM for the areas' relevance and

importance. The Pryor Mountains (75,000 public surface acres, Billings Resource Area, Carbon County, Montana) are proposed for ACEC designation for the significant cultural values, sensitive plants and animals, exceptional scenic values, nationally significant examples of natural processes and nominated National Natural Landmarks. The Red Dome-Bridger Fossil Area (3,528 public surface acres, Billings Resource Area, Carbon County, Montana) is proposed for ACEC designation because of paleontological phenomena, scenic values, and landforms that exemplify a natural system or process. A proposed and a designated National Natural Landmark located within the area indicate national importance. Pompeys Pillar (431 public surface acres, Billings Resource Area, Yellowstone County, Montana) is proposed for ACEC designation because of significant cultural values and national importance. Deadhorse Badlands (40,000 public surface acres, Powder River Resource Area, Carter County, Montana) is proposed for ACEC designation because of scenic values, naturalness, fragile and irreplaceable badlands features, and size. Finger Buttes (3,800 public surface acres, Powder River Resource Area, Carter County, Montana) is proposed for ACEC designation because of scenic values and a rare plant species. The Fossil Cycad Area (320 public surface acres, South Dakota Resource Area, Fall River County, South Dakota) was formerly a national monument. It is proposed for ACEC designation because of the significant paleontological resource and national importance.

The BLM previously nominated Meeteetse Spires and Weatherman Draw. Meeteetse Spires (960 public surface acres, Billings Resource Area, Carbon County, Montana) contains two rare plants: *Shoshonea pulvinata* and *Townsendiana spatulata*. It is enjoyed by the recreating public because of the spectacular scenery. The BLM would manage this scenic area to protect the rare plants while allowing recreational use by the public. Weatherman Draw (2,250 public surface acres, Billings Resource Area, Carbon County, Montana) contains a unique cultural resource important for scientific research and of sacred value to Native Americans. The BLM would manage the area to preserve the site, and make it available for scientific research and for public interpretation.

The public is also requested to assist the BLM in the identification of issues. Examples of potential issues (problems, concerns) are: mineral development, recreational use and economics.

Alternatives will be developed to present a range of feasible management actions. The "No Action Alternative" will be included in accordance with 43 CFR 1502.14(d) and represent the continuation of current management.

Meetings for the areas proposed for ACEC designation are not yet scheduled. If meetings are scheduled, the public will be notified through local news releases.

The documentation on BLM's evaluations of relevance and importance will be made available at the BLM Powder River, Billings and South Dakota Resource Area offices.

Development of this document will require involvement of professionals from these disciplines: archaeology, economics, forestry, geology, land use planning, minerals, range management, recreation, realty, soil science and wildlife management. The public will be provided the opportunity to review and comment on issues and ACECs developed by BLM and to identify new issues and potential ACECs. A mailing list is being developed and will be used to communicate with and solicit comments from local, state and federal agencies, Native American tribes, the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, and the public at large which may be affected by the plan. As the planning process proceeds, these publics will be encouraged to participate.

The BLM is seeking information from individuals, organizations, and agencies who may be interested or affected by the proposals. Specifically, we request any nominations, issues, concerns or alternatives that should be addressed in the plan.

This notice meets the requirements of 43 CFR 1610.7-2 for designation of ACECs.

Darrel Pistorius,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-8489 Filed 4-5-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

[CA-930-5410-00-B047; CACA 33365]

Conveyance of Mineral Interests in California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of segregation.

SUMMARY: The private land described in this notice, aggregating 40.00 acres, is segregated and made unavailable for filings under the general mining laws and the mineral leasing laws to determine its suitability for conveyance of the reserved mineral interest pursuant to section 209 of the Federal